ELL Reader

Genre	Build Background	Access Content	Extend Language
Fiction	• Growing Up • Changes Over Time	• Labels in Pictures • Patterned Text • Repetition	• Opposites

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Mom Was a Baby Once



by Irene Kruger
Illustrated by Deborah J. White

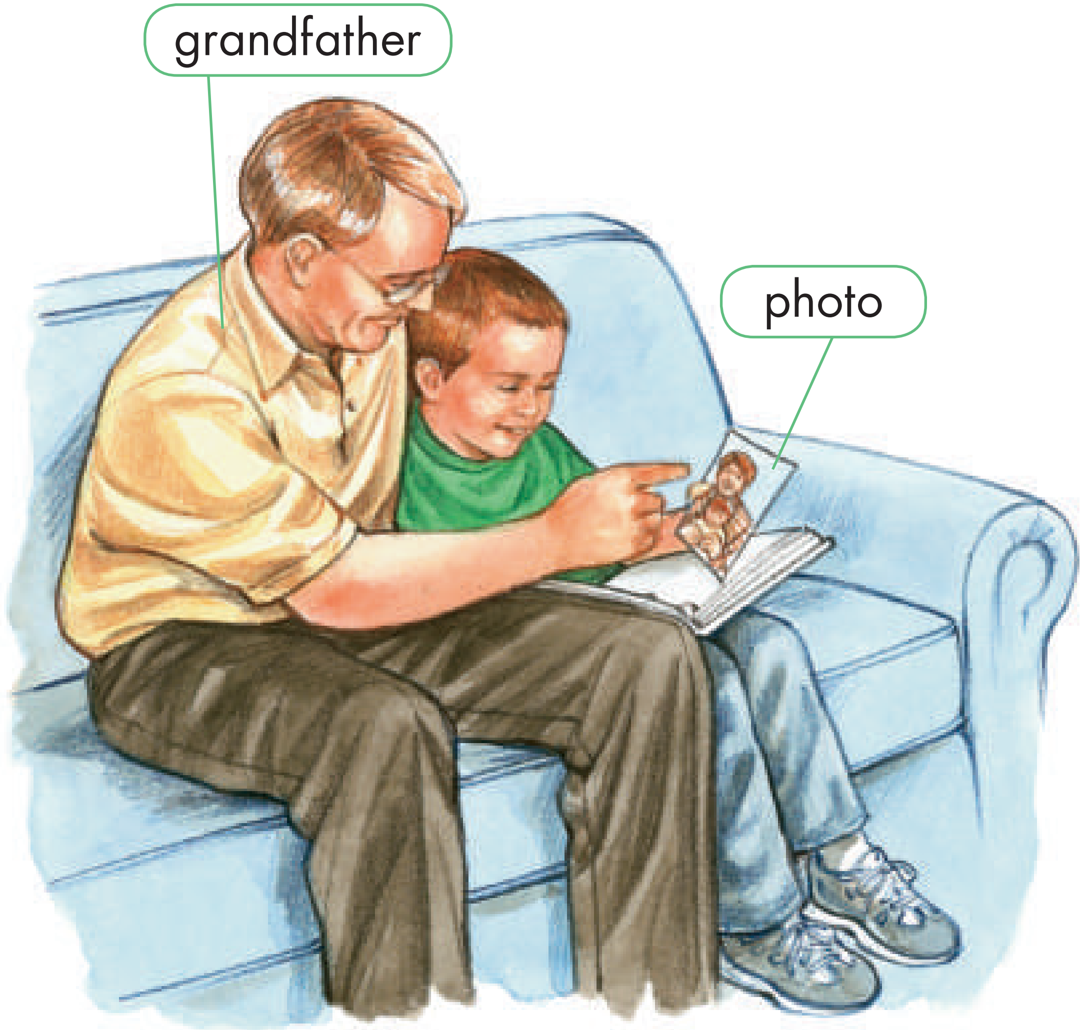
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Justin and Grandpa look at photos.
In one photo, there is a baby.



"Who is in this photo, Grandpa?" asks Justin.
Grandpa says, "The man is me. The baby is your mother! Your mom was a baby then."



Justin looks at Mom in the photo.
Mom was a little baby in the photo.



Justin looks at Mom in the room.
Mom is not a little baby now.
Mom is a big person now.



Justin looks at Mom in the photo.
Mom was a little baby then.
Mom had no teeth in the photo.



Justin looks at Mom in the room.
Mom is not a little baby now.
Mom has teeth now.



Justin says that Mom changed a lot.
Grandpa says, "Everyone grows.
Nothing stays the same."
Justin thinks that Grandpa is right.

Talk About It

1. How is Justin's mother different now from when she was a baby?
2. How do you think Justin will change as he grows up?

Write About It

3. On a separate sheet of paper, make a drawing. On one side of the paper, show a picture of you as a baby. On the other side of the paper, draw a picture of you now.

Extend Language

Young and *old* are opposites. What is the opposite of *big*?

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